

# THE AMERICAN

JOURNAL OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, THE ARTS, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

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## THE AMERICAN.

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### CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK, . . . . .	199
FINANCIAL REVIEW, . . . . .	200
EDITORIALS:	
The Meeting of the Legislature, . . . . .	200
The Sioux Slaughter, . . . . .	200
SPECIAL ARTICLES:	
Anglican Hymnology.—II, . . . . .	201
Newfoundland, . . . . .	202
Bad Management of Western Railroads, . . . . .	203
WEEKLY NOTES, . . . . .	203
COMMUNICATIONS:	
Some Remarks on Acting and Actors, . . . . .	204
REVIEWS:	
Adams's "Richard Henry Dana," . . . . .	204
Ibsen's "Emperor and Galilean," . . . . .	20
Burn's "Roman Literature in Relation to Roman Art," . . . . .	205
Lefroy's "The Ruined Abbeys of Yorkshire," . . . . .	206
Read's "Hindu Literature," . . . . .	206
Briefer Notices, . . . . .	207
AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS, . . . . .	207
SCIENCE NOTES, . . . . .	208
ART NOTES, . . . . .	208
CURRENT EXCERPTS:	
What Koch's Discovery Leads To, . . . . .	209
How Classic Poets are Killed, . . . . .	209
Present Situation of Alsace-Lorraine, . . . . .	209
Protection to Shipping Next, . . . . .	209
PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED, . . . . .	210
DRIFT, . . . . .	210

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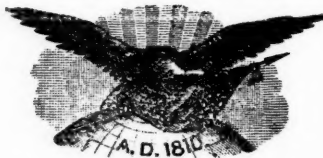
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# THE AMERICAN.

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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1891.

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## REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

ON Tuesday Senator Hoar finished his extended and able speech in favor of the Elections bill, and this was understood to close the speaking by the advocates of the measure. On the same day Mr. Wolcott of Colorado spoke in opposition, his argument being apparently that of one who thought that so small a matter as the right of suffrage could well wait the convenience of the free coinage of silver. It is supposed that his colleague, Mr. Teller, is of the same mind, and as Mr. Stewart of Nevada, had already declared himself on that side, and Mr. Cameron of Pennsylvania has announced his purpose to vote with the Democrats also, it will not take many more deserters to give the latter the majority they desire.

In order to reach the final vote the passage of the closure rule appears needful, and this is now in such a position that it can be speedily dealt with. It was up, in fact, on Tuesday, and received some consideration, Mr. Reagan of Texas proposing several amendments calculated to make it substantially ineffective.

On Monday, it seems to be understood, there will be some definite movement begun to reach a conclusion of this chapter. It is expected that a quorum will then be made by the Republican Senators, so that they will be in command of the business, and that the closure rule will be taken up, discussed, and without much delay acted on. It is to be hoped so good a programme can be carried out. It is quite time.

Of course neither of the Pennsylvania Senators give any aid to their Republican colleagues. Mr. Quay is away,—of course,—and Mr. Cameron chiefly consorts,—as usual,—with his particular friend, Mr. Butler of South Carolina, who proposes the repeal of the Fifteenth Amendment. Probably nothing in political affairs could be more farcical than the pretense that Pennsylvania has two Republican Senators at Washington, and this state of affairs indicates as strongly as anything could the moral paralysis of the Republican party, brought about by Mr. Harrison's deplorable surrender to Mr. Quay. If the party had real courage, or had a vital apprehension of its own necessities, it would not tolerate the action,—and the inaction,—of Mr. Cameron and his colleague. Each of them continually shows his contempt of the party's purposes and plans, and neither of them, of course, does anything which could help establish it on higher or more secure ground.

Nothing yet appears to indicate that Mr. Cameron will not be returned for six years more. There is an increase of expression in opposition by those Republicans who are independent enough to express themselves, but the number of these is sadly small, and even the members of the Legislature from counties like Chester are expected to support Mr. Cameron, because they suppose he is "slated," and they fear to be accounted "kickers." We live in a droll world, if you look at its doings on the political side.

THE reports from Kansas signify that there has been a rallying of the Republican forces in behalf of Mr. Ingalls, and that the heterogeneous elements opposing him may fail to unite on any one else. There are indications that his friends are more hopeful than they were a month ago. In South Dakota, where the term of Mr. Moody is expiring, the situation is very much the same as in Kansas, the "Alliance" men, Democrats, and Independents having a small majority. It has been understood that Mr. Moody's case was desperate, and that no other Republican was likely to be chosen, but the later reports throw doubt on this, and there appears to be a fair chance at least for a Republican Senator, with some prospect that Mr. Moody may himself be the man.

With the Legislatures generally about to assemble and all these hotly disputed and extremely uncertain senatorial seats to be settled, we shall have some topics of interest on hand during the next fortnight. Even in New York the doubt as to what Governor Hill means to do with the seat which the Republicans took away from Mr. Evarts and kindly handed over to their opponents, adds much zest to the situation. That the Governor means to take it himself is altogether unlikely; he is very much more likely to take,—if he can get it,—a third term in the Governorship. And the spectacle of his candidacy, and the support which the Clevelandites will be forced to give it, will be very entertaining. Of course they will know that he desires to continue Governor in order to have a better leverage for the Presidency.

FROM the South we have a real old-fashioned war-whoop,—one of the sort that we used to hear so often in the years preceding 1861. It is uttered by the *Appeal-Avalanche* of Memphis, which in regard to the proposed new rule of the Senate says:

"The response of the South to the closure resolution should be an appeal to arms. There is a limit to the patience of freemen. That limit is reached when political injustice trenches upon the sanctity of the home, makes mockery of loyalty to country, challenges the patriotic aspirations of a people, scorns the truth, and proclaims an end of liberty.

"Force should meet force. Toleration begets confidence in the mind of the tyrant. To yield an inch is to give an ell. This is history. The hand of the despot is only stayed when his subjects rise in the might of mass. Necessity knows no law. Self-preservation justifies any remedy."

What fort will be fired on, this time? Not Sumter, probably, as the attack is to come from Memphis. And will the new war begin at once, or will a better opportunity be waited for?

THE Senate has confirmed the nomination of Judge Brown of Michigan to be a justice of the Supreme Court, and this has been accompanied with testimony from various quarters to the merits of the selection. The western newspapers, including the Democratic *Free Press* of Detroit, speak very highly of Judge Brown, as a strong, sensible, well-trained jurist.

It begins to be seen, too, and even admitted,—which is quite another matter,—that President Harrison is making a good record in his selections for the Supreme bench. Judge Brewer is acknowledged as a valuable accession to it, and the new appointee will undoubtedly sit worthily beside him. In fact, says the *Brooklyn Eagle*, (Ind. Dem.), Mr. Harrison has done much better than his predecessor. Judge Lamar's capabilities for the bench were never great, and they have declined rather than increased, while the Chief Justice will hardly be regarded as filling completely the seat occupied by John Marshall. The *Eagle*, in fact, speaks more sharply than we care to do. It says that the appointments of Messrs. Fuller and Lamar "have not turned out to be especially fortunate for the Court, or in any large measure satisfactory to the judiciary and the bar of the country, or at all gratifying to the rank and file of the Democratic party at large. They were not successful appointments, and were due to Mr. Cleveland's possession of greater confidence in himself than in those with whom he could have wisely advised."

THE embarrassments of the western railroads, especially those beyond the Mississippi, have been the subject of much comment, and are now the occasion of a serious effort at remedy. But if the details alleged by an article in *Harper's Weekly* (elsewhere quoted from) are true, it is not surprising at all that they are embarrassed,—it would be strange if they prospered.

ON Friday of last week Mayor Fidler signed both the railroad ordinances which were in his hands,—authorizing the Reading

Terminal structure, and the building of the proposed Belt Line. The announcement that he had done so was a great relief to the community. The time which had passed from the day of the Councils' final action had been used to create so strong a doubt as to his action that bets were being freely made that he would veto the Terminal ordinance. Members of Councils who had voted for it, under the demonstration of the public feeling on the subject, were not ashamed to urge him to kill it.

The situation of the city is vastly improved by these ordinances,—which ought never to have suffered the vexatious and costly delay to which they have been subjected,—and the sense of their importance and value is reflected in the whole tone of the community. It is felt that at last the city has the opportunity of a new development, and that its men of action may now go forward hopefully.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW.

##### PHILADELPHIA.

THE stock markets, during the holidays, have been dull, but generally firm. In Philadelphia there has been a decided advance and recovery in several stocks which were depressed during the financial disturbances of November. Among these Lehigh Navigation rose to 48, Investment Company to 31, (par of each 50); Northern Pacific preferred to 64, and Finance Company to 55, (par of each 100). The Reading shares and securities all improved under the influence of the more friendly treatment shown the road by the city, with reference to its Terminal construction. The stock, on Wednesday, sold as high as 16½, and the general mortgage 4's at 80½, while the first preference bonds,—which will receive a dividend next after the "fixed charges," when the nett income shall warrant it,—showed a decided stiffening, and sold at 55½.

We do not hesitate to say that all these shares and securities, with the exception of Reading stock, on which we express no opinion, are much below their real value. The clear certainty of an intelligent and enterprising future development of the city, on the lines now marked out,—the construction of the Reading Terminal, the building of the Belt Line road, the erection of one or more elevated city railroads, and in general the improvement of paving, watering, lighting, etc., as indicated by the Committee of Fifty,—makes it equally certain that the financial and business concerns of Philadelphia have a good future in near view. There will be, we anticipate, a sharp recovery in enterprises which for some time past have experienced depression.

These views are consistent with the general situation of business in the United States, which has been so strong that it has borne successfully the most tremendous strain ever put upon it by the financial conditions of Europe. As we pointed out weeks ago, the American situation indicates a good degree of prosperity, and does not indicate collapse or disaster. Values have been and are very low. The decline in stocks in 1890 was such as to discount the prospect of trouble. Unless there shall be reckless legislation concerning the national finances, (of which the prospect has lately diminished), there can hardly be, for at least two years to come, any serious check to the steady, legitimate development of the country, with the construction of new railroads, and the improvement of business on those now existing. It is true that there are troubles apparent on the lines west of the Mississippi, but it is also true that these have already had their bad effect, and that even if they should continue, which they probably will not, they cannot involve further the general business of the country. No gold has left us,—not a dollar even during the severe stress of the London markets and the unloading upon us of its shares and securities. On the other hand, a considerable sum was moved to this side last month, and more is now likely to come. Our exports of merchandise continue large; the balance in our favor, in the foreign movement of merchandise for the month of November, was 25 millions of dollars.

It must be considered that the investing power of Europe, and especially of London and the German cities, to which American enterprises have been accustomed to look for support, is very great, and that as London recovers from the shock of the Argentine collapse it must of necessity look largely to this country for the use of its accumulating capital. The unfavorable experiences in South America will all the more tend to direct the stream this way, and while there will be caution observed in placing money, it cannot be questioned that a large share of the investments of London and the German cities will be made in the United States, in the next two years, and that every sort of legitimate enterprise, and even those undertakings which involve a moderate element of risk, will feel the stimulus of this inflow of capital.

Much is to be looked for in the steady courage of American business men. There has been shown a determination not to permit the business of the country to become panic-stricken. This was manifested particularly in the support the banks gave each other in the great reserve cities, during the November storm. It was the scientific application of means to ends, sustaining the places that needed aid by the common strength of all, and doing it upon the simplest and soundest economic principles. Much the same feeling has been exhibited in other directions, and it will be seen, we believe, in many ways. The country now believes in its own strength, and does not believe its affairs are otherwise than healthy.

#### THE MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

THE Legislature of Pennsylvania will assemble on Monday under circumstances different from those which have attended the like event in the past eight years. Since 1883 the bondage of the Legislature to the Bosses has been very complete. Mr. Cameron was made Senator in 1885 without opposition, and in like manner Mr. Quay took the other Senatorship in 1887. But these acts, while they were indicative and typical, were far from forming the full chapter of the subserviency to which the Legislature abandoned itself. Practically it has been "run" by Mr. Quay in every essential particular, and its acts of commission and omission have been alike chargeable to the "orders" which he gave.

It is possible that this degradation of the General Assembly may not now occur in the degree to which the State has been accustomed. Mr. Quay is "off color" with even the thorough-going, unhesitating party men. They have not recovered from the November chill. They understand that it is impossible to go on in the old way, unless there is to be a candid acknowledgment that the party is in decay and dissolution. And if Mr. Quay does not take control of the organization, bossing the "slate committees" of the two Houses, controlling the caucuses, directing the choice of Speaker, arranging the committees, and so, by all these means getting the Legislature in the toils, who is to do this? Mr. Cameron cannot, and no agent of his is powerful enough. The State Treasurer, Mr. Boyer, it was recently said, had been designated to "steer" the organization of the two Houses, but Mr. Boyer, except as representing Mr. Quay or Mr. Cameron, or both, would have only an influence equaled by a number of other men. He is not a leader of the party in the State, and except as his possession of the Treasury for a year to come gives him some importance, he is not in a situation to issue "orders" that this member shall be made chairman of a leading committee, and that member shall be sent to the foot of an unimportant one.

The situation at Harrisburg is such that if there were in the Legislature but half a dozen resolute men, with fair abilities, and some experience in State affairs, they could render valuable service to the Commonwealth, by bursting at the beginning the fetters which doubtless some of the "Boss" influences will attempt to place upon them. But where are these men? Where are there any members who have the grasp of affairs which is necessary for independent and broad action? We ask this with reference to all the Legislature's work,—its organization, its selection of a United States Senator, and its adoption and rejection of legislative measures. The misfortune of Pennsylvania clings to it like a shirt of Nessus: it has depressed and degraded its men of ability, forcing them to serve "Bosses" or be driven out of public life, and when its needs their aid they are not within its call.

#### THE SIOUX SLAUGHTER.

WE have now had two so-called "battles" with the unfortunate Sioux, causing serious losses of life among the United States troops, both men and officers, and entailing,—of course,—the consequences of wholesale slaughter upon the Indians who were engaged. We say the unfortunate Sioux, because however much justification it may ultimately appear the troops and their commanders had for using the last argument of arms, it is perfectly certain that the Indians are comparatively innocent suffer-



ers. They have had neither the advantages of their own mode of life nor of civilized ways. They have found themselves encroached upon and disturbed. Their great reservations they were forced into selling and breaking up,—a process which however necessary from the white man's point of view, was to most of them unwelcome and painful. Finally, having indulged the superstitious hopes awakened by the "Messiah" craze, they find themselves called on to surrender their guns and their ponies,—the extremest form of Indian humiliation,—or suffer the penalty of death.

It is a gross scandal to the American Republic that this condition of bloodshed should arise. For the Sioux are a people amenable to influences that would have avoided it. They have the qualities out of which a vigorous civilization may arise. They are hardy, energetic, and brave. They have a large intelligence. They are capable of learning. They are easily made industrious. They can be led into Christian ways. Nobody doubts who has had friendly intercourse with them that they are entitled to better treatment than massacre.

Nor is it, unfortunately, only the "bad Indians," the "hostiles," the bands led by Sitting Bull and his lieutenants, who have suffered. As usual, the peaceable bands, including many who were endeavoring to farm, to build, to raise stock, to acquire implements, and to live in the civilized way, have been disturbed and robbed. Many of them, in terror at the approach of the troops, not knowing whether they would be protected or not, abandoned their property, and in the confusion it has been lost, or destroyed, or stolen.

It is very true, as has been suggested by the Indian Rights Association, in a circular just issued, that the expenditure of money in the present Dakota troubles will far exceed the sum which would have served, if used in time, to educate the Sioux to the point where they could not have been influenced by the barbarous and superstitious elements among them. A proper education would have made the "ghost dances" abortive, and have restricted the influence of Sitting Bull and other makers of mischief so far that it would have done no serious damage. This, indeed, was largely the revolt of the heathen Indians against the progress and influence of the Christianized and civilized ones, and if there had been a timely educational effort made, the weight of the former would have been trifling in comparison with the latter.

It is too soon to judge how necessary it was to let the troops loose: it is not too soon to pity the unfortunate Sioux. Whenever the earthen crock swims with iron ones it is sure to suffer.

#### ANGLICAN HYMNOLOGY.—II.<sup>1</sup>

THE exhibit of recent English work in the field of Hymnology brings forward some new names of eminent merit. Naturally Sir Henry Baker may be taken as the dean of the guild. And the author of "The King of love my Shepherd is" has few superiors. But his best work is in the earlier edition of the Anglican Church collection. Archbishop Benson has but one hymn, yet that has a splendor and a breadth which are very remarkable. Here are verses 2-5:

"The powers of earth, for all her ills,  
An endless treasure yield;  
The precious things of the ancient hills,  
Forest, and fruitful field.  
Thine is the health, and Thine the wealth  
That in our halls abound;  
And Thine the beauty and the joy  
With which the years are crowned.  
"And as, when ebb'd the flood, our sires  
Kneel'd on the mountain sod,  
While o'er the new world's altar-fires  
Shone out the bow of God;  
And sweetly fell the peaceful spell—  
Word that shall aye avail—  
'Summer and winter shall not cease,  
Seed-time nor harvest fail;'

<sup>1</sup> HYMNS ANCIENT AND MODERN for Use in the Services of the Church. London: Novello. 1861. (273 Hymns.)  
The Same. With Appendix. 1868. (378 Hymns.)  
The Same. Revised and Enlarged Edition. 1875. (373 Hymns.)  
The Same. With Supplemental Hymns. 1889. (638 Hymns.)  
[See article in THE AMERICAN, November 22, 1890.]

"Thus in their change let frost and heat  
And winds and dews be given;  
All fostering power, all influence sweet,  
Breathe from the bounteous heaven.  
Attemper fair with gentle air  
The sunshine and the rain,  
That kindly earth with timely birth  
May yield her fruits again."

Dr. Wm. Bright of Oxford, (who recently had a narrow escape from being murdered by a crazy woman), made three notable contributions to the first supplement. Of his five contributions to the new edition we like best that on the Apostle Thomas:

"How oft, O Lord, Thy face hath shone  
On doubting souls whose wills were true!  
Thou Christ of Cephas and of John,  
Thou art the Christ of Thomas too."

and that on the Apostle Matthew:

"He sat to watch o'er customs paid,  
A man of scorned and hardening trade;  
Alike the symbol and the tool  
Of foreign masters' hated rule."

Rev. E. A. Dayman, so abundantly represented in the "Sarum Hymnal" and in Cooke and Webb's "Hymnary," has but one hymn here. Rev. John Ellerton, in some respects the finest of English hymn-writers of this generation, has twenty-six, of which eight seem to have been contributed specially to this collection. At least they are not in the "Church Hymns" of the S. P. C. K., which has forty of his hymns. He is already known in America by his "Welcome happy morning" age to age shall say—a translation from Fortunatus,—his "Saviour, again to Thy dear name we raise," and his "This is the day of light." The fine hymn on the conversion of the Apostle Paul in the proposed Hymnal for the P. E. Church, "We sing the glorious conquest," is his.

Prof. F. A. J. Hort is associated with Ellerton in two translations. Our old friend, Thomas Hughes, has tried his hand at a hymn, also, and the result is characteristic and fine in its way:

"O God of Truth, whose living Word  
Upholds whate'er has breath,  
Look down on Thy created sons  
Enslaved by sin and death.

"Set up Thy standard, Lord, that we  
Who claim a heavenly birth,  
May march with Thee to smite the lies  
That vex Thy groaning earth.

"Ah! would we join that blest array,  
And follow in the might  
Of Him, the Faithful and the True,  
In raiment clean and white?"

"How can we fight for Truth and God,  
Enthralled by lies and sin?  
He who would wage such war on earth  
Must first be true within.

"O God of Truth, for whom we long,  
Thou who wilt hear our prayer,  
Do Thine own battle in our hearts,  
And slay the falsehood there!

"So tried in Thy refining fire,  
From every lie set free,  
In us Thy perfect Truth shall dwell,  
And we may fight for Thee."

Bishop How is exceedingly popular through his "O Jesus, Thou art standing," and "For all Thy saints, who from their labors rest," and "Lord Jesus, when we stand afar." Of his newer hymns given here none quite equal those, but his "Who is this so weak and helpless?" has merits of its own. Bishop MacLagan would be a better hymn-writer than he is if he were to write more briefly. Of his four hymns given here, we best like that on the Evangelist Luke:

"Whom Thou didst choose to tell the tale  
Of all thy manhood's toils and tears,  
And for a moment lift the veil  
That hides Thy boyhood's spotless years."

Rev. Jackson Mason keeps up the succession of translators from the Latin, and his version of *Alum flamen vita mundi*, is a spirited one. Rev. A. J. Mason seems to love to illustrate the apparent antithesis of anti-Protestantism and anti-Romanism which are united in the Anglo-Catholic. His "Church of the Living God" would do for opening an Orange lodge, while his "Hail body true of Mary born" might be sung at Mass. Of Dean Plumptre's hymns but one is added to the three adopted in the supplement of 1868, and that is a Church Defense hymn, surprisingly churchly from one so "broad" as he. Of course it is not equal in this respect to Rev. S. J. Stines' on the same subject, beginning:

"Round the sacred city gather  
Edom, Egypt, Babylon;  
All the warring hosts of error,  
Sworn against her, move as one."

But that is what we should expect from the author of "The Church's One Foundation." Of his new hymns the finest is one for missions: "Through midnight gloom from Macedon." We give the third verse:

"By other sounds the world is won  
Than that which wails from Macedon.  
The roar of gain is round it rolled,  
Or men unto themselves are sold,  
And cannot list the alien cry:  
'O hear and help us, or we die!'"

Rev. T. B. Pollock is a name of recent note, but associated mostly with metrical "litanies," a species of hymn in which the chief problem is to avoid monotony. His hymns proper are quite free from it, and remind us at times of John Newton. The association of Rev. Henry Twiss's name with his "At even ere the sun was set," in the supplement of 1868, excites high expectations as to the four in that of 1889. Of these the "Not for our sins alone" is the most worthy of its predecessors. More ambitious but preachy is "The voice of God's creation found me."

Altogether, the new additions sustain the character of the book which made so wide and deep an impression in 1861. Yet there has been a modification of its tone in the meantime, corresponding to the changes which have gone on within the party. In its early stages it was occupied most with Anglican theology and its severe canons of common sense and good taste dominated its poetry. Since then a growing familiarity with the literature of Latin theology, and a growing preference for some of its peculiarities, especially its mysticism, and its mystical sense for the Scriptures, shows itself in all the literature of the school. Its hymns have become pretty full of it. Even Mr. Ellerton has fallen into the fashion, as may be seen by comparing his earlier hymns with his "Praise to the heavenly Wisdom" or his "Thou who sentest Thy Apostles." This is by no means an unmixed gain,—is indeed a gain rather to the rhetoric than to the poetry or the usefulness of the hymns. If it gets rid of the conventional flatness it is often at the sacrifice of simplicity and intelligibility. What could the peasants of an English country parish, for instance, make of Mr. Twiss's elaborate comparison of the ascension of Elijah with that of Christ, in Hymn 506? They would have no difficulty with Sir Henry Baker's "Oh what if we are Christ's" or Mr. Prynn's "Jesus meek and gentle." But they would find in this new style nothing but puzzles which hardly repaid the reading. Hymn-writers should take warning by Adam of St. Victor, whose great gifts as a poet have proved of no use to the Church, because he wasted it on this kind of ingenuity.

R. E. T.

#### NEWFOUNDLAND.

AT present this island province of the British Empire is attracting a good share of the world's attention. Not on account of its size or importance, but solely because of the peculiar political situation which has recently developed. The problems in relation to this little-known region that now confront the English home government are of a character very hard to solve. They vividly illustrate the difficulty of the task always before the strongest nation while trying to furnish government that will satisfy provinces in all parts of the world. When the province is thousands of miles away from the source of control the wisest measures cannot prevent the frequent appearance of minor disorders, and there is need at all times to be prepared for open discord. When the provincial interests are widely divergent from those of the Mother Country, such perplexities increase many fold. Largely, at this time, such seems to be the case with Newfoundland. This fact may be looked upon as the basal reason of the misunderstanding that almost threatens an open conflict with British authority. In the capital city, the people of this strange island have so long been misunderstood that it may be quite impossible for statesmen in London to look at the question from a Newfoundland point of view. But a satisfactory settlement cannot be reached until the whole subject is fairly considered from the standpoint that the islanders are forced to occupy. The peaceable adjustment must be reached, if at all, in Newfoundland rather than in England or France.

The geographical position of this lone-land has much to do with the sort of away-by-themselves-characteristic of its people. Usually a half-way house is found to be exactly nowhere. Particularly if it is on an important line of travel. In its relation to Europe and America this is precisely what may be said of Newfoundland. It lies just beside the great ocean highways, and large steamers are almost constantly in the harbor of St. John's. Still, the English and Americans who visit the port in great numbers, usually have less knowledge of the country than of the South Sea islands. Separated from the northeastern corner of our continent by the narrow strait of Belle Isle, it pushes its ragged coast-

line out into the stormy north Atlantic in the most obtrusive fashion. No one can look at a map of North America without instantly beholding this easternmost portion of its belongings, which gives every general indication of having been at some time connected with the main land of Labrador. Simply to look at it is to behold a most interesting geographical feature, and a little careful study will show any one that whatever its capabilities may be, as a place to live in it has the drawback of being a very long and dreary distance from anywhere. The atlas pictures of Newfoundland with which we are familiar are necessarily upon such a small scale that unless we look into the subject carefully we gain a very inadequate idea of its extent and the leagues of rough ocean that separate its chief city from the nearest port of commercial importance. The area is put down at 40,200 square miles, and the most direct steamer route requires a voyage of 520 miles to reach Halifax, N. S. As the Newfoundlanders reside so far away from the centers of civilization and have only reached such developments as are required by their manner of life, quantity or quality of description can never make the world appreciate the demands which they are now making with such surprising energy, or the troubles which are behind them. To comprehend the Newfoundland situation one must be on the ground and from the lips of the hardy fishermen learn the cause of the stern appeal, really more in the nature of a threat, which they have so suddenly and, to some extent unexpectedly, sent across the western ocean.

The antiquated treaty of which they complain with so much justice, is a document with whose making they had nothing to do. All will admit that a great moral wrong is inflicted when the inhabitants of a country are made to suffer from the effects of an agreement entered into by nations thousands of miles away, at such a time and place that they could have no voice in a matter of far more importance to them than to anybody else. Especially so when one of the contracting parties is supposed to be the natural defender of their interests. The islanders are almost entirely of British descent, and the hard labor, danger, and simple method of living necessitated by their occupation, have produced a fine, stalwart, independent race of nautical folks, who from any one will never ask more than their rights. And when such people do request the removal of a grievance which cannot longer be endured, the biggest country can hardly afford to disregard the appeal. We may be sure that the men of *Nova Terra* would never have uttered the fierce complaint which has produced such a profound impression in London, without the most exasperating provocation. And as the matter now stands, what is demanded, or its equivalent, will have to be granted! The people are united in the determination that every vestige of French claim shall be permanently removed from their shores. With all the advantages that their country affords, their opportunities for getting a livelihood are small and few enough, and every inch of territory, including all the shores, and the water-ways to the line of the ocean, must be entirely for their benefit. With France, England may fix the affair up as best she can. In dealing with Newfoundland only one course is open. She must see to it that the cause of complaint is radically removed, or provoke the islanders to open rebellion. Of course the wise heads of Great Britain will not consider the latter alternative for one moment. Consequently, as quickly as the business can push its way through the long crooked passage of diplomacy, we may expect that Newfoundland will receive substantial justice.

I have already remarked that this large island is far from being well understood. How much of its forty thousand square miles is habitable has not yet been learned. The present population is something over 200,000. They are almost entirely coast dwellers, and engaged in occupations connected with fishing. Very little farming is attempted; and the resources of the country back from the coast have received but slight attention. The land is generally described as depressed and swampy, with occasional ranges of low, rocky hills. It is affirmed that only small portions could be successfully cultivated. But there are extensive forests of large spruce and other valuable trees, so located that proper facilities would change them into immense quantities of fine lumber, which without doubt could be profitably shipped to a Canadian or American market. There is a certain amount of vague talk about mineral deposits of fabulous value. But regarding this matter not much is definitely known. As the world is now moving it cannot be long before the interior of Newfoundland is scientifically explored; and when its true worth becomes generally known the means to develop it will be forthcoming.

Newfoundland, like the Canadian maritime provinces, does not need the help of immigration. What she does need is a development of resources that will suspend the present large emigration. And when her stalwart sons and daughters generally find it profitable to remain at home, not many years will pass before the country contains a large population.

ADDISON F. BROWNE.



BAD MANAGEMENT OF WESTERN RAILROADS.<sup>1</sup>

THERE is a popular impression that the receipts from the passenger service form a large percentage of the earnings of a road. It is not so, save under exceptional conditions. The fact is that such receipts are much smaller than the freight earnings, and one very good reason for this is that while a company receives practically the whole of the latter, it receives a very uncertain percentage of the former. The peculations of the railway conductor have been a fruitful theme for the paragrapher for many years. Some of the conductors have been so successful that they can laugh their critics' sarcasms to scorn.

It is a singular fact that while some of the Western roads lose very little in this way, on others the number of cash fares stolen from the company is simply incredible. Owing to a variety of causes, cash fare receipts are heaviest on the new divisions of a road. There, naturally, the losses are the greatest. The ticket station equipment is imperfect, and the people who travel on the frontier are the most indifferent of all passengers about buying tickets. On one of the best paying railway properties in the West, the stock of which is still above par, and which has paid dividends without a break since the panic of 1873, nine-tenths of the conductors retain a large portion of the cash fares. Such a thing can be possible only where the practice is general. Were it otherwise, the comparison of the trip receipts of an honest conductor with those of one who had his own ideas about dividing with the company would soon result in the exposure of the latter. It has happened that some conductors, not satisfied with what cash fares they could retain, have turned over to station ticket agents, equally dishonest, unpunched tickets to sell again, the proceeds being divided. Happily such combinations are not likely to work smoothly any length of time; yet they periodically occur when an especially unscrupulous conductor gets a passenger train. One enterprising youth made the phenomenal record of "knocking down" twenty-five dollars a day while in charge of a construction train, which, it need hardly be said, is never supposed to carry passengers. But the carrying of passengers fell under the eye of the construction department and a dismissal followed. Discharged for this violation of rules, our promising financier reentered the service on another division of the road, where his industry and patience were rewarded in time with a passenger train. It would appear that he stood better in the confidence of his superiors than in that of his fellow-conductors, the more cynical of whom expressed doubts about the company's ever getting the train back after he had left the town with it.

The loss of revenue from these embezzlements is frequently considerable, as may be estimated from the fact that on the road alluded to were three conductors, handling the passenger traffic on one division, who each stole ten thousand dollars a year for several years together. This did not happen very long ago, and the conductors on that line still make lower rates for passage than the general passenger agent's schedules. His efforts are doubtless devoted to circumventing the schemes of rival companies to secure business, while, oddly enough, his most incisive competition is among his own employes. Such wide-spread demoralization points to careless management.

Be sure it is well known among the subordinates on any road where it exists, and the newer men are only waiting their turn to plunder. Should you make the tour of a train where such practices flourish, you might happen into the baggage car just as the baggage-man and express messenger were lifting the cover of a box of fresh fish to supply themselves with a Sunday dinner. If you remained long enough you would see the dessert furnished from a package of fruit. While you meditated on these peculations, the rear brakeman would have an opportunity to collect the fare of his passenger on top of a coach, who for a dollar would thus secure a ride of two or three hundred miles. Amid these cheerful surroundings should the train-boy pass a counterfeit quarter on you it would not be an occasion for surprise.

A thousand miles further west, on one of the leading railroad systems, no repairs have been made on the road-bed or equipment for a long time. In consequence, the days which pass without a wreck are the exceptions. They are of so common occurrence as to occasion little comment. The interesting feature for us in connection with them is that these wrecks are usually occasions for wholesale looting on the part of the employes. Those who can reach the scene load up with the scattered merchandise and carry it away with them. All hands help themselves, taking everything portable, from rare silks to plug tobaccos. On this road all manner of stealing is done so openly that it is said among railroad men, not ironically, but as a statement of fact, that an honest man "cannot hold his job" there. He would certainly feel lonely. An experienced railroader who began work for this company as a

brakeman was twice offered a train, and refused to take it, feeling sure that such rottenness could not last, and that a new management would make a clean sweep among the employes. Upon inquiry, however, he learned that this state of affairs had existed for three years. That the climax of bad management has been reached on this line is painfully shown by such incidents as these: a transcontinental fruit train was held at a division station five hours waiting for a conductor to take it out; conductors are frequently two weeks behind in their remittances; one conductor turned in but one cash fare in five weeks,—that one because the passenger announced his intention of trying to get it refunded by the auditor; at one of the heaviest commercial points on the system shippers are obliged to bribe the switchmen to the extent of five dollars per car to get their merchandise to warehouse within a week after its arrival in the yards.

On some Western roads losses from cash fare stealings have been reduced to a minimum because stern necessity compelled watchfulness. A man with a limited income counts the dollars more carefully than one in possession of ample funds. The poorer roads are the most observant of their revenues. A curious fact is that the roads which lose little pay out more money for watching the conductors than to the conductors themselves; and when necessary the expenditure is prudent. A run which is good for five hundred dollars a month to a conductor ought to be worth an extra salary for the secret service necessary to secure the receipts to the company. After paying two men there is still something left for dividends.

After what has been seen in the train service, let us glance at a superintendent who for years made a practice of issuing to such parties as he safely could, not a ticket, not a company pass, but a personal card asking any conductor on his division to pass the bearer from A. to B. By judiciously disposing of such favors, this provident steward of other men's capital supplied himself with such incidental elegancies as the mercantile houses of a large city afford to a man of taste. Subsequently entering the service of another line,—it was never known which of his talents attracted their attention,—our easy Sybarite found additional means for providing himself with luxuries by operating in this way on both the old road and the new. The intrinsic evil of such thievery is not the loss of a few fares to the company. They could better afford to provide a special car for every such passenger than to have them ride in this way. The corrupt relation established between conductor and superior is what appalls the reformer. Imagine the *sangfroid* with which a collector will "hold up" fares who carries with him evidence which would incriminate the only man in the service to whom he is directly accountable.

In the position of purchasing agent are vast opportunities for fraud. The amount of the supplies yearly required to feed a great railroad is immense. The temptations which encompass the purchaser of them are subtle and innumerable. It is difficult to say where the innocent receiving of courtesies leaves off and bribe-taking begins. The upright official is often embarrassed in the discharge of his duties as purchasing agent, but the office, so full of startling possibilities, sometimes falls into the hands of one of our "Napeleons," and then look out. The map of the road's prosperity will speedily be changed, and the Inter-State Commerce Act will again be made a scape-goat when the annual statement appears. A Western road was recently victimized by its purchasing agent to the extent of \$250,000. That was the fairly well-ascertained loss. How much remained undiscovered cannot be estimated. From the nature of such thefts, they are difficult to trace, and the chances of recovering from the firms in collusion with a corrupt official are very slight.

## WEEKLY NOTES.

THE new Copyright bill (when will the Senate pass it, by the way?) pleases the London *Publisher's Circular* very much, except in the particular that the mechanical work on books getting American copyright is required to be done here. That journal says: "There ought to be absolute freedom to set the type and cast the plates wherever it might chance to be most convenient. We do not object to the importation of American plates into England; why, then, should Americans object to the importation of English plates into America? Until this restriction regarding the printing be removed, the Copyright bill cannot be accepted as wholly just and satisfactory."

To which we reply that the proposed measure is itself a convention, and an encroachment on *laissez faire*. No claim for "absolute freedom" in one particular can be made consistently with the want of freedom as to others. Since we are creating rights under the law for authors, we are quite justified in guarding by law the interests of printers, paper-makers, type-founders, stereotypers, and book-binders.

<sup>1</sup>From an article, "Some Phases of Western Railway Management," by Frank H. Spearman, in *Harper's Weekly*, December 27.

At the recent Congress of "Americanists," at Paris,—the eighth of the series, since the first in 1875,—M. de Quatrefages, the President, committed himself to an opinion as to the origin of the people of the American continent. They are, he believed, the descendants of immigrants from the old world. He thought that man, who is to-day to be found everywhere, did not show himself from pole to pole at the beginning. He was born upon a unique and circumscribed territory and has progressively invaded the entire earth by way of migration. In support of his thesis, M. de Quatrefages reasoned from scientific analogy. Real cosmopolitanism as it exists among men is nowhere to be observed among the lower animals, or in the vegetable kingdom. No plant or animal is to be found upon the whole of the terrestrial surface. Moreover, in proportion as we arise in the scale of organized beings we find that the area occupied by the species diminishes. Whilst certain phonogamic, or perfect plants, exist upon about half of the earth's surface, the highest order of animals inhabits relatively small regions. It is therefore natural to suppose that man, who holds the highest rank in the social scale, originally appeared upon a circumscribed space, and afterwards, by way of migration, occupied the whole of the earth's surface.

All of which is a plausible and intelligent argument, supporting what no doubt is the consensus of opinion of students of the subject,—that America was peopled from Europe.

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THE Forestry movement seems to be making good progress. The Pennsylvania Association, which, thanks to a few energetic members, has been one of the most active and useful of the State societies, had a good annual meeting, last month, and will have an adjourned meeting on Monday evening next, to discuss sundry subjects of importance. At the annual meeting the addresses by Mr. Burnet Landreth, the retiring president, and by Rev. Dr. J. P. Lundy, his successor, were interesting and serviceable reviews of the general subject. Mr. Landreth's experience in forest work is not a thing newly acquired; he has been actively interested in it for many years, and nearly twenty years ago received the honor of election to membership in the Scottish Arboricultural Society. "the foremost forest association of the world."

The National Forestry Association has just held its annual meeting at Washington. The report of the Executive Committee showed members in 29 States, one Territory, the Federal District, and two provinces of Canada, and there was evident both a growth of interest and an increase of practical plans for work.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

##### SOME REMARKS ON ACTING AND ACTORS.

To the Editor of THE AMERICAN:

I COME once more to enter my protest against the unreasonably high estimation in which foreign artists are held, who come over to get rich with our money. *Punch*, long ago, laughed at the Americans for spoiling some very fair actors by making them think themselves first-rate; but I refer at present to the Kendals. The high claims that are advanced on behalf of these artists seem to challenge a few criticisms; which I offer, premising, with Portia, that:

"To offend and judge are distinct offices  
And of opposed natures."

Let us then in the first place pass by one or two little questions of voice and intonation, and remark that though no man is responsible for his age and figure, he is responsible for the use he puts them to. It is an error in histrionic judgment to attempt parts for which the person is not suited. It is not within the bounds of possibility for an English matron equipped with two, at least, of the three f's, to personate the slim, high-bred, shrinking, unknowing French demoiselle of "The Ironmaster," or the young society lady of the "Scrap of Paper." Accordingly in the former play *jeune première* is a misnomer, and in the latter we are presented with a heroine who is far less of the demure damsel than of the delightful dashing widow. And the gentleman was too gentlemanly for the Ironmaster: not too much of a gentleman; that is another matter.

I have been accustomed to see "*Le Maître des Forges*" play a part throughout, assume the bearing of a stern and severe husband, and never relax at all towards his wife until she receives in her own body the bullet meant for him. The Ironmaster forgets himself once or twice so markedly that it seems as if any clever woman, under real circumstances of the kind, might easily have mastered him. Possibly the one is right and the other not wrong.

Both these plays have been adapted from the French, and by no means improved. "The Ironmaster" has been added to, if my recollection serves me, and both seem to have been reinforced at certain points as if with a not wholly complimentary idea of reach-

ing dull sensibilities. I have known this same thing done in turning French plays into Italian.

There was no feeling to speak of in the audience,—an important fact, generally ignored by the newspapers in speaking of these artists. The curtain fell at the end of each act, and then went promptly up again, in a suggestive way; but whether this was to discount applause, or merely to display a tableau, was not so clear.

We shall never have much good acting until theatre-going is cheaper. It is the audience that makes the actor; and a man is not educated by going once or twice in a season, to pit or circle, and sitting, at \$1.50, like a stalled ox, and hatred therewith,—for had we not to place ourselves crosswise on the skimped seat, in order to fit in? But then we shall never have cheaper theatre going until good acting be more common.

On the continent of Europe a liberal government subsidy takes this bull dilemma by the horns and deals with it successfully.

J. B. B.

Logan Square, Phila., Dec. 30, 1890.

#### REVIEWS.

RICHARD HENRY DANA. A Biography. By Charles Francis Adams. In Two Volumes. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1890.

THE average reader, caring nothing in particular for either the subject of this biography, or its author, will exclaim at once that two volumes of it are quite too much. But even the average reader, if he be one who enjoys a good work of biography, will be ready, we think, after he reads them, to join that group of readers who have a special regard for Richard Henry Dana, and a special interest in Mr. Charles Francis Adams, in saying that they are none too much. Mr. Adams's two volumes are a delightful collection of admirably arranged matter relating to Mr. Dana; while at no time losing sight of him as the personality to be described, they give us views,—not glimpses and "bits," but satisfactory and intelligible views,—of the people, the social usages and conditions, the historic events and personages, of the years in which he lived. From cover to cover they are serviceable, not merely as a biography of one person, but as a study of the social framework in which his life was set. The extracts from Mr. Dana's journals, the threads of narrative, comment, and explanation by Mr. Adams which bind them together, the citation of literary matter, such as Mr. Dana's letter to Mrs. Sedgwick on the *Somers* mutiny case, with the reminiscences which the author and editor himself supplies,—all these form, as we have already declared, a delightful collection to any one who cares at all for the study of an individual man in his relations to society under the conditions of the United States in the nineteenth century.

Richard Henry Dana, Junior, a lawyer of Boston, the son of Richard Henry Dana, poet, and the grandson of Francis Dana, Chief Justice of Massachusetts, was born in Cambridge, Mass., in 1815, and died in Rome, early in January, 1882,—almost precisely nine years ago. He lived, therefore, less than the allotted three-score and ten of the strong man, yet he had a constitution naturally robust, and his father died only three years earlier than himself, at the age of 91. In his sixty-seven years he achieved one notable success, and suffered one notable mortification. It would seem that it was the spite of adverse fortune, or it was want of good management, which prevented him from scoring more successes, and clearly this is what Mr. Adams thinks, for he points out at one place how he gave his talents to small cases in inferior courts, at another how he wore himself out in details which he should have left to assistants, and at others how he might have changed the current of events most important to himself by a little more tact, and a little less personal dogmatism.

The one notable success of Mr. Dana's life was his little book, "Two Years before the Mast," describing with graphic fidelity his experiences as a common sailor in a voyage from Boston around Cape Horn to the coast of California, and home again. It is such a work as will be practically imperishable, and it will preserve his name in appreciative recollection when all other means are powerless. He published this in 1840: the voyage he had taken in 1834-5-6. There is no other just such book in our literature. It is simple, lively, precise, full of interesting details, and it describes the Californian shores at a time when the American pioneer had not yet reached them. General Bidwell, who has just been telling us, in the *Century*, the experiences of the very first overland emigrant party, went out in 1841, and the discovery of gold occurred in 1848.

The notable disappointment and mortification of Mr. Dana's life was the rejection by the United States Senate, in the spring of 1876, of his nomination to be minister to England. This was an event to bear which without injury required a great deal of self-control and equanimity. It may be doubted whether even Mr. Dana, who had both qualities, did not receive from it a serious



shock. The circumstances of his non-confirmation were peculiarly unpleasant. He had offended General Butler in politics, and he had become involved in a law-suit with Mr. William Beach Lawrence over the question whether in an edition of Wheaton's work on International Law, which (at the request of the owners of the original work), he had edited, he had infringed in his notes on the copyright of Mr. Lawrence in the notes which he had made on a preceding edition. General Butler was a rough opponent of those whom he regarded as his political enemies, and he and Mr. Lawrence persuaded the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, in the usual one-sided secret hearing which is the custom in such cases, (a practice so extremely unjust, in many instances that it always excites indignation, and yet difficult of radical amendment, under the circumstances), that Mr. Dana was guilty, first, of plagiarism, and then of perjury, and consequently that to make him Minister to the most important government with which we have intercourse would be a gross mistake. In the coarse words of Butler, in a letter to the *New York Tribune*,—which could easily have been better employed than in printing such matter,—Mr. Dana's offense "was not so much that of pirating the book, but that he swore he didn't." The facts were that Mr. Dana's notes were substantially his own, and constituted no real infringement on Mr. Lawrence's edition; that if there was any interference at all it was technical and trifling; and that, as Mr. Adams says, it is probable that with a little exercise of tact, and good nature, a little acknowledgment to Mr. Lawrence for the references which had been transferred, there would have been no law-suit, and no handle for Butler. But the case, as it was presented,—*ex-parte*, entirely,—to the Senate Committee, seemed conclusive against him, and as he declined to come to Washington to defend himself, (partly from a misunderstanding how the matter stood, partly because he thought the Committee meant to defeat him anyhow), his rejection resulted, and the circumstances, as we have said, made it peculiarly galling to a proud and sensitive man.

But while we have restricted the record of his notable successes to the single item of his little book, it would be far from just to say that the other labors of his life were without good fruit. As a lawyer he did some excellent, and some enduring work. He was counsel for many oppressed seamen, he defended the right of numerous fugitives from slavery to their freedom,—among them the famous Anthony Burns; and for a considerable time he stood, in Boston as one of the small group of resolute and capable lawyers who were willing to serve a good cause without a great fee. From 1861 to 1866, he was United States District Attorney, and in that position he rendered services to the Nation which were of high importance, formulating the legal theory by which the United States held on the one hand that the war against the Union was but a rebellion, and on the other that the United States had the belligerent rights which would have existed in a war with an independent power. This was a nice distinction, but Mr. Dana's argument sustained it in the Federal Court of Massachusetts, and afterward,—in conjunction with Mr. Evarts,—before the Supreme Court. Undoubtedly it is true that in the critical issues which were involved,—for the United States could neither afford to have belligerent rights accorded the "Confederacy," nor those rights denied to itself,—Mr. Dana's legal work was of very great value,—as real a service as if he had been the director of a successful campaign in the field. The lawfulness of the blockade was essential: without its being lawful it could not be maintained in the face of England and France, and without its maintenance the "Confederacy" would have worn out the strength of the Nation. That was the whole case, and the lawyer who made the argument by which the Nation sustained itself is entitled to a laurel wreath as much as the victor who returns from a contest of arms.

So, also, in politics, Mr. Dana bore a manly part. He disliked the manner of the Abolitionists, and a good deal of their manners, but he was an ardent Free Soiler from the days of '48 and the Buffalo Convention, and in 1866, when it appeared that President Johnson expected the office-holders to create a new party for his exclusive use, he courteously but emphatically asked to be excused. His public career, except his professional service as District Attorney, was practically *nil*, and it may be questioned whether his qualities, after they had become set and hardened, suited him for political life. Mr. Adams describes him as full of resource in the trial of a case; like a good commander in a desperate battle, he was "never flustered, even when taken unawares," and he "invariably rose to an equality with the occasion." But this was in the court-room, where he knew his surroundings. The writer of this remembers well his mistake of statement which was so eagerly seized upon, and so adroitly used to his discomfiture and the injury of his cause, in the Republican Convention at Cincinnati, in 1876. As a testimony that they regarded him with high respect, notwithstanding his rejection by the Senate, the Republicans of Massachusetts had made him one

of their delegates to the convention, in the interest of that demand for better politics which aspired for an ideal candidate and also pronounced Mr. Blaine not available. This movement took Mr. Bristow, then Secretary of the Treasury, as its representative, and in the convention Mr. Dana made one of the speeches by which his nomination was urged. But in that speech, well phrased in other respects, he intimated that with Mr. Blaine as the candidate Massachusetts would be lost, and at this statement there was a vehement protest from the supporters of Mr. Blaine, who saw in an instant that it could be turned to their advantage. In such a body as the National Convention it is the unwritten law never to presume that the candidate whom its majority shall choose to select can be other than victorious, and Mr. Dana had transgressed this law. It wounded the effect of his speech, and when the Blaine orators followed, (for, as Kentucky is higher in the alphabet than Maine, Mr. Bristow was named before Mr. Blaine), they turned the mistake to their account in appeals to the partisan zeal of the convention. It might have been true, as Mr. Dana said, that in 1876 Mr. Blaine would have lost the State of Massachusetts. His majority was small eight years later, and in the interval the feeling against him in that State had materially abated. But in a bout with Robert Ingersoll, in the National Convention, as in a contest with General Butler in Essex district politics, Mr. Dana was overmatched. He could do better in court against Rufus Choate or Judge Curtis.

There are some paragraphs in Mr. Adams's book which will probably cause a shedding of ink. But we presume he is prepared for this. As we have already said he has made a very interesting biography, and both volumes will find full room granted them in the permanent collections of the country.

EMPEROR AND GALILEAN: A World-historic Drama. By Henrik Ibsen. Authorized English Edition. Edited by William Archer. New York: Scribner & Welford.

This is the fourth volume of Ibsen's prose dramas. A fifth will complete the series. It really consists of two plays, and is its author's most extensive work, although not his most poetical. It was written in 1873, and marks his transition from historical play-writing to that critical handling of modern society which had already been foreshadowed in his "Young Men's Union."

Considered as a study of the leading character of the play, we are obliged to dissent. It is strange that Julian has had hard measure at the hands of men, who certainly were not limited by any kind of theological prejudice. Ammianus Marcellinus, a pagan and an officer of his own army, and a genuine historian in spite of his abominable style, has shown him no sympathy. Gibbon tries to be judicial, but is much less fair to him than to Athanasius. Strauss in his famous pamphlet makes of him a stalking-horse to belabor poor Friedrich Wilhelm IV. of Prussia, and implies a most contemptuous estimate of the man. Ibsen is as bad as any of these. Like Strauss, he thinks he missed his vocation in becoming an apostate from Christianity, as that was what he was fitted to promote. And the portrait of him through the whole of the first play is that suggested by the satirical account of Julian as a student at Athens, which has been preserved for us in the writings of Gregory of Nazianzum. We hope, since the unbelievers and the pagans have dealt so harshly with this pagan and unbeliever, that some charitable Christian will take him up and say what can be said for him. It cannot be alleged that he was a great man. As Gibbon says, he lacked repose of character for that. He showed more cleverness than dignity or magnanimity in his treatment of the Christians after he became emperor. But he was a brave soldier, a competent administrator, a hater of lies. And the jumping-jack whom Ibsen portrays could have been none of these.

The idea in this play, as in most of Ibsen's later ones, is that a vocation lies upon every man, and the tragedy of his life is his failure to fulfill it. The idea is traceable to Fichte, the philosopher of moral intensity. It was adopted and modified by Hegel in the statement that the great man is he who has no smaller or more private aim than the great purposes which control the historic movement. This is Julian's tragedy. The world,—as Strauss and Ibsen see as clearly as did Athanasius and Gregory of Nazianzum,—was moving away from the Classic to the Christian conception of life. The reality of that movement was authenticated by the personal devotion and earnestness of the real adherents of the new faith. They were still a minority, but the future was with them. The intensity of their self-surrender to the Christian ideal and to the rule of Christ, was the earnest of success. It proved that they saw a good beyond what the pagan world valued, and that they would carry the world towards it. Associated with this was much ugliness,—hypocrisy, politic cruelty, sectarian hate. A greater man would have been able to discriminate. Julian did not. He threw himself right across the line of the world's progress, and he was crushed, *Vicini Galilee!* So palpable was his

tragic mistake, that even the critics of Christianity have not been able to be just to him. Strauss, who held the Gospels to be a tissue of romance, despised him for rejecting that romance.

The second part of the play may be said to be much inferior in psychologic interest to the first; but it gains in social interest. It is not Julian now, but the struggle between his revival of Paganism and the Church which interests us. He is no longer a "problematic character." He has made his choice; he has escaped the dangers of his position; he is master of the world. But there are powers of which he is not master, as the outcome shows.

The translation is good, but would have been better if the translator had possessed more familiarity with ecclesiastical terms. Thus in the very first page we find "Easter Night" where it should be "Easter Eve." So on page 37, "fast-dishes" should be "lenten dishes." "Vienna" in the fifth act of the first play will mislead English readers, as they will think of the city on the Danube, and not of Vienne in Southern France,—to which, by the way, Julian did not go on leaving Lutetia.

ROMAN LITERATURE IN RELATION TO ROMAN ART. By Rev. Robert Burn, LL. D. London and New York: Macmillan & Co.

Dr. Burn shows in this book that he has been a close student of classic art in all its forms. He believes that he has found in the contrast presented by Greek art to Roman, and in the process of degradation undergone by the latter, a lesson of much significance to the English nation. In art he is a thorough-going idealist, and holds that the ideal element in it is that which constitutes at once its glory and its utility in the highest sense of that word. He praises the Greek sculptors, for instance, for idealizing the faces and figures of the great historical personages of whom they made busts or statues,—the very point at which the Roman critics found fault with them. Just here he finds a characteristic defect of the Roman mind. Like the English it was practical, unideal, matter-of-fact. In sculpture it valued nothing so much as exactness of portraiture. It was not aspiration after ideal beauty through the types presented by an Æschines or a Plato or an Alexander, but the historic record of the actual appearance of a Caligula, a Nerva, or a Vespasian that they prized. A second defect on which they valued themselves was their *severitas* or austerity, which made them censors and satirists, rather than frank lovers of life's sunshine and beauty, as the Greeks were. To these two were added by historical circumstances elements adverse to true art. The first was that they made themselves masters of the known world,—an area about half as large as our own country, and thus acquired a passion for bulk and magnitude which affected artistic production unfavorably. The second was that the plunder of the world brought great riches into the hands of individuals, and thus left art dependent upon personal patronage. The Greek artist worked for a whole community, and had to strike deeply and labor broadly to commend himself to those large and common elements of human nature, which belong to all classes. He must choose great subjects and treat them in a great way. The Roman artist had to meet the demand for technical finish and beauty of detail on the part of a class which valued art as a method of ornamentation rather than an instrument of inspiration. The Greek must be ideal; the Roman could not afford to be so.

These peculiarities Dr. Burn illustrates from Greek and Roman literature, and also by well contrasted specimens of their art in both sculpture and architecture. He finds that the Roman poet was hampered by exactly the difficulties which beset the sculptor and the architect; that he yielded, as time went on, to the same adverse historical influences. He sees in both forms of artistic production the expression of the same national spirit acting under the influence of Greek teaching, which was but imperfectly assimilated. And then he passes to English art, but especially to English poetry, as furnishing a parallel movement, and suggesting a cognate warning. The utilitarianism, realism, severity, imperialism, individualized wealth, and technical finish of English production he finds to be indications that the true use of art is likely to be lost along with its true spirit.

The idea of the book is admirable; the illustrations well chosen; the citations ample and to the point. But Dr. Burn does not quite do justice to his theme. He has not acquired the art of continuous discussion, and he fails to make his readers perceive at once the point and force of the evidence he offers. This makes a demand on the attention which is much beyond what was needed, and tends to weary a conscientious reader.

THE RUINED ABBEYS OF YORKSHIRE. By W. Chambers Lefroy, F. S. A. With Forty-six Illustrations by A. Brunet-Debaines and H. Toussaint. London: Seeley & Co. New York: Macmillans.

This beautiful book has more than one side of interest. Mr. Lefroy is an architect, and dwells lovingly on the splendid gothic

structures, whose very ruins put to shame the labors of an age which prides itself upon church building. He has an interest in the religious side of the subject, and recognizes the great services rendered to Christendom by Benedict, Norbert, and the other great founders; while he agrees with Protestants generally in believing that the age for such a life as they instituted has passed away. He also traces with good insight the relations of the old monasteries to the social life of the nation, reminding us that our hospitals, hotels, parliament-houses, and several other institutions have been differentiated out of them. And he gives us here a chapter from the social life of a most interesting part of England,—the southern border province of the old Northumbria, whose early severance from South England has left its mark in the separate Archbishopric of York, and the survival of the Northumbrian dialects, including Scotch in all its varieties. It marks the conservatism of Yorkshire that the newer orders took so little hold there. Thirteen of its twenty monastic houses were of the Benedictine family, while in southern England the monastic orders far eclipsed the Benedictines. Just so the shire clung to the Catholic Church long after South England had become Protestant; and it has districts to this day in which the common people never have changed their creed.

Of the buildings whose ruins are here depicted, Fountains and Kirkstall are by far the grandest. Few indeed of the English cathedrals excel these abbey churches in splendor and massiveness; and the staunchest Protestant must sympathize with the architect's regret that so much has been allowed to perish. Scotland has been blamed for her iconoclasm as regards her great gothic buildings. But in the length and breadth of that always poor country there was less good work to destroy than in this one rich English shire. And closer study in both countries shows that it was not the iconoclasm of the Reformation period, but the indifference of the two following centuries, which undid the work of the mediæval builders.

On one point Mr. Lefroy is entirely in the dark. His account of Whitby proceeds upon the usual assumption that Hilda was an abbess presiding over a community of nuns. She was in fact a *coarb* ruling a church-sept, according to the queer system of the Irish church, to whose communion in her time the Northumbrian Christians belonged. Coedmon was a member of the sept, and as much under her rule as any other member. The attempt to explain his presence by degrading him to a servant of the monastery grows out of the misunderstanding. Hilda probably had from ten to a dozen bishops living under her rule and preaching through the district of which her hall was the center.

HINDU LITERATURE: OR THE ANCIENT BOOKS OF INDIA. By Elizabeth A. Reed. Member of the Philosophical Society of Great Britain. Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co.

This, we believe, is the first really popular and readable account of the literature of Ancient India to be found in our language. And it is a well-made, useful book. The author, of course, makes no pretence of having read the great mass of Indian literature, which indeed would occupy several lives. Whether or not she is a Sanskrit scholar, we cannot learn from her preface. And in truth there is no need that she should be. Through the labors of H. H. Wilson, Max Müller, Monier Williams, and other able investigators the materials for a satisfactory hand-book on the subject already exist in English, but scattered through a library of books, and often imbedded in a mass of technical detail which repels all but eager students.

Mrs. Reed has not approached her task in that spirit of indiscriminate enthusiasm which has spoiled so many works of this kind, and has prepared many readers for a severe disappointment whenever they take up a new one. She recognizes the fact that Hindu literature is far from being fairly represented in the anthologies of its most attractive passages, which some books have furnished. To the Western reader, at least, the greater part even of the Vedas are "flat, stale, and unprofitable;" and in the later literature we encounter meaningless mysticism, degrading superstition and a grossness "too naked to be 'shamed.'" This our author frankly tells us. She is not one of those who try to degrade the Bible from its unique place in Oriental literature, by ascribing to the works of Hindu hymn-writers and philosophers a charm which it alone possesses,—the charm of a broad humanity cultivated by a true intimacy with the living God.

Nor does she seek to carry back the date of this old Aryan literature to great ages before our era. As she shows, even the Vedas belong to the period 1500 to 1000 B. C., according to the latest researches. Her only slip in this respect is in placing the Code of Manu at B. C. 500. The metrical character of the Code, as Max Müller has shown, is such as makes it certainly not older than A. D. 400, and possibly it belongs to a still later period.

The book treats first of the Vedas and their contents, and then of the later sacred literature, down to the Puranas, which



close the canon. She then takes up the two gigantic epics, with the "Bhagavad-Gita," which has been interpolated into the second of the two. The narrative and analysis are supplemented by discussions of the religious ideas dominant in each class of works, showing the development of Indian religion from the worship of Indra and Agni to that of Vishnu and Shiva, with chapters on Suttie, on Cosmogony, on Metempsychosis, and on Rewards and Punishments. The quotations from the epics are given in flowing English verse, which is quite as good as Sir Edwin Arnold's translations.

We only miss an account of the Hindu drama, which probably owes its existence to that of Greece, but has a character of its own.

We observe that Mrs. Reed expresses her obligations to Prof. Max Müller and Sir Monier Williams for personal assistance. The latter has both revised and annotated her chapter on Krishna. T.

#### BRIEFER NOTICES.

MESSRS. GINN & CO., Boston, issue a new series of "Lessons in Language," by Mr. Horace S. Tarbell, Superintendent of Public Schools, Providence, R. I. The series is a substitute for the usual "Elementary English Grammar" and "Rhetoric." The first book of the series is a fair example of the improvement in methods which has of late years been introduced in the school study of English composition. Many text-books which have been in use are defective in making the art of writing a formal and rather difficult matter, hedged in by many rules, and by cautions of the "Purity, Propriety, and Precision" type, as to choice of words. The newer text-books are arranged upon the principle that the conveyance of thought in a simple and accurate manner is paramount in importance to considerations of structure, choice of words, or punctuation. In pursuance of this principle, Mr. Tarbell places practice in writing before theory, and introduces some new features in story-writing, description of pictures, and letter-writing. We think text-books of this kind are the best means of bringing nearer the time when ready, clear, and forcible writing in private and business correspondence, in advertisements, reports to meetings, newspaper communications, and like matters, will be an ordinary accomplishment.

There are few more agreeable writers in any field she chooses to enter than Mrs. Oliphant, and when she has a Scottish theme she is indeed at home. Her book on "Royal Edinburgh: Her Saints, Kings, Prophets, and Poets," is a charming fabric, woven from all the materials of history, romance, poetry, and legend, and relating not so much to the streets and stones of the city itself as to the men and women who have lived and moved among them. She begins with Margaret "the Atheling," wife of Malcolm, and sister of that Edgar Atheling of England who was the Saxon heir whom the Norman invaders set aside, and following on down the line of the Scottish kings and queens, she ends at last with one kingly enough though not wearing the purple of royalty,—Walter Scott. Over the Stuarts,—the Stewards,—she lingers in five chapters out of the thirteen which compose the book, for all of the first five James-es are figures around whom many picturesque details gather. "Mine own romantic town," she quotes a line from "Marmion" to describe Edinburgh, and unquestionably the reader of this volume, like the visitor of to-day to the city itself, will grant that the description is well deserved. The book has a large number of illustrations of buildings and places in Edinburgh, most of them by George Reid, R. S. A. (Macmillan & Co.)

#### AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

THE death was announced, on the 30th ultimo, of Mr. Theophilus B. Peterson, the head of the firm of T. B. Peterson & Bros., publishers of this city. Mr. Peterson was born in 1821; in 1840 he became foreman of the office of the *Saturday Evening Post*, but soon engaged in business as a newsdealer, and then later as a publisher. One of his notable successes was the issue of Mrs. Southworth's novels, and he also published those of Mrs. Ann S. Stephens, Mrs. Lee Hentz, and T. S. Arthur.

Messrs. Joel Munsell's Sons, Albany, N. Y., have issued an edition of the original "Mother Goose Melodies," in fac-simile of the Isaiah Thomas edition printed at Worcester, Mass., about 1785,—twenty-five years after the first issue in London by John Newbery. There is now a very earnest argument made that the author of the "Melodies" was no less a personage than Mr. Oliver Goldsmith.

Messrs. Cassell & Co., have entrusted Mr. Walter Paget with the preparation of an entirely new series of original drawings to illustrate "Robinson Crusoe." There will be in all upwards of 100 designs, and these are being reproduced by the best wood-engrav-

ers for the new edition of this work, of which the first monthly part has just appeared in London.

Mr. J. Lash Latey has retired from the editorship of the *Illustrated London News*, with which journal he has been connected since its foundation in 1842. He has been editor of it for thirty-two years. Mr. Latey's successor is Mr. Clement King Shorter.

The Charterhouse, London, has managed to secure a large proportion of the school sketches and manuscripts of Thackeray which were recently sold by Messrs. Sotheby. The foundation was already in possession of many interesting relics of the great novelist. The school journal, *The Greyfriar*, promises some fac-simile reproductions from the newly-acquired treasures.

Mr. F. Marion Crawford, the *Critic* states, having been pulled down by overwork, has gone to Tiflis, Asiatic Russia,—a city noted for its hot baths,—to recuperate. His novel, "The Three Fates," will begin to appear in *Longman's Magazine* on Jan. 1. It is, perhaps, worth while to remark that the story was written before "The Cigarette Maker's Romance," and "The Witch of Prague." Mr. Crawford has promised to deliver to Macmillan's by June 1 the third and concluding part of "Saracinesca," but ill-health may prevent his doing so.

Messrs. Harper & Brothers have nearly ready for publication an "Elementary Latin Dictionary," by Charlton T. Lewis, Ph. D. The work is substantially an abridgment of Dr. Lewis's larger work published about a year ago. Space, however, has been gained by the omission of many detailed references and illustrative citations, and the vocabulary has been extended so as to include not only all words used by the Latin authors most commonly studied in schools, but also those used by Catullus, Tibullus, Propertius, and Tacitus in his larger works.

The little volume of poems by Mr. Frank Dempster Sherman, "Lyrics for a Lute," has had extraordinary success, a second edition of a thousand copies having already been printed.

Of Mr. Richard Harding Davis, whose success as a short story writer has been quite pronounced, the "Lounger" in the *Critic*, has these details: "The first short story Mr. Davis ever wrote appeared in *St. Nicholas* as recently as November, 1886. It was on his favorite game—football. His 'hit' was made with 'Gallagher,' which was published last August in *Scribner's*, after having been declined by three other magazines. He has written stories enough to fill a book, and if the publishers have anything to say about it, it will not be long before the book comes to light. Readers of Mr. Davis's story in the December *Century* will hear with interest that 'The Cynical Miss Catherwaight's' collection of orders and decorations is a real one, and belongs to the author, (although its extent may have been a little exaggerated in the tale)." An intimate friend of Mr. Davis is the artist C. D. Gibson, much of whose work is seen in *Life*. Mr. Gibson made the illustrations for Mrs. Harrison's "The Anglomaniacs," and it is Mr. Davis's face and figure which is drawn for that of Lord Melrose, in that story.

The issue of *Good Housekeeping*, heretofore twice a month, becomes monthly, with the new year. It has made its mark as an enterprising and intelligent magazine, representative of the interests and tastes of the class for whom it is designed. (Springfield, Mass.: Clark W. Bryan & Co. \$2.40 a year.)

Fortnightly issues do not, as a rule, seem to be popular. The old *Publishers' Circular*, of London, heretofore published on the 1st and 15th of each month, will appear weekly, hereafter, and with an enlarged page. Its extra Christmas number, by the way, is an immense issue, of over 300 pages, giving a wealth of detail concerning the book-trade of London at the holiday season, accompanied by a host of illustrations.

Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls, New York, announce that they have in preparation "The Standard Dictionary of the English Language." It is to be a one-volume book, like Worcester and Webster, and will contain, as is now expected, over 175,000 words, (as against 105,000 in Worcester's "Unabridged," and 130,000 in the new "International" Webster.) The plan of the work has some differences from other dictionaries. It takes the view that the average person who consults a dictionary desires to learn, as quickly and conveniently as possible, one of three things about a given word: (1) its correct spelling, (2) its correct pronunciation, (3) its most common present meaning. Following this idea, it places the definition, the ordinary present meaning of the word, next to the word, and leaves the etymology to follow later. This, it freely admits, is not so logical, if philological study is desired, but it is according to common sense, if it be desired to accommodate the mass of those who will use the book. And on the same line, instead of giving the several meanings of a word in their historical order, beginning with the oldest, least familiar, and perhaps obsolete, it proposes to give them in the order of usage,—the modern first, the ancient last. Other new features are added to these, one of them the "locating" of the quotations,—i. e., ac-

accompanying each with a note of the volume and page it comes from. The price of the new work is to be \$10, and while the senior partner of the publishing firm, Dr. Funk, is editor-in-chief, he is assisted by a corps of editors of departments, including Dr. F. A. March, of Lafayette College; Dr. R. Ogden Doremus, Prof. Simon Newcomb, Dr. Gregory, ex-President of Lake Forest University; and others of equal prominence. As to new words, the question of their admission will be passed upon by a committee of reference, composed of ex-President Julius H. Seelye, of Amherst, Prof. Sheldon of Harvard, Mr. Chas. A. Dana, Dr. Howard Crosby, and Rev. Edward Everett Hale.

On Monday last, the 29th ultimo, Octave Feuillet, the distinguished French novelist and dramatist, died in Paris, in his seventieth year. For nearly forty years he has been prominent as a writer. In 1858 his book "The Romance of a Poor Young Man," which was dramatized and played the following year at the Vaudeville, assured his fame, and the novel is one of the most charming productions in its kind which modern literature can show. In 1862, Feuillet gained the coveted prize of a seat in the French Academy, succeeding his fellow dramatist, Eugene Scribe. Besides his novel which was adapted as a play by Lester Wallack, many of his plays have been adapted in England or America, notably his "L'Étranger" ("La Tentation") by Dion Boucicault, and "Peril en la Demeure," which Tom Taylor made clever use of in his "The House and Home." Later and successful dramas from his pen are "Le Sphinx," "Un Roman Parisien," and "Chamillac," which in 1886 afforded Coquelin an opportunity to create one of his most famous rôles. Among his more recent novels may be mentioned: "Journal d'une Femme," "Un Mariage dans le Monde," "La Morte," and, only this year, "Honneur d'Artiste." He was an officer of the Legion of Honor and held the position of librarian to the Emperor until the revolution in 1870.

Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. will issue at once a one-volume edition of Lowell's "Biglow Papers," with all the notes prepared for the new edition of Lowell's complete works; "A Psalm of Death, and Other Poems," by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell; and "Francis Wayland," in the series of "American Religious Leaders," by Prof. James O. Murray, of Princeton.

The United States Book Company have just ready two new volumes by Rudyard Kipling which they have added to their "Westminster Series" under the titles of "Under the Deodars" and "The Light that Failed," the first efforts of this popular writer at a long novel.

The late Professor Austin Phelps had, just previous to his death, completed preparations for a new volume somewhat similar in character to his "My Study" and "My Portfolio." It is entitled "My Note Book," and has just been issued by the Scribners. It contains a number of the author's briefer essays, with some detached thoughts, somewhat of the nature of table-talk.

The Poet-Lore Co., 1602 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, have nearly ready, in dainty shape, a new edition of Kingsland's "Browning," with added memorabilia, photographic reproduction of the latest portrait of the poet, and a *fac-simile* letter.

#### SCIENCE NOTES.

THE second general meeting of the American Chemical Society was held at the University of Pennsylvania on the 30th and 31st of December. As announced in advance, the main object of the session was to perfect an organization of the various local bodies of chemists of the country into a national society. The chief among the local organizations to be included are the Chemical Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; the Chemical Section of the Franklin Institute; the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, and the Washington Chemical Society.

A report made last month to the New York State Commissioners on the Niagara Falls, presents the results of a recent survey of the Falls by the State survey corps. Among other things, some interesting figures are given showing the amount of recession of the Falls since the first survey in 1742. The total mean recession of the Horse-Shoe Falls since that date has been 104 feet, 6 inches, with a maximum at one point of 270 feet. The total mean recession of the American Falls has been 30 feet, 6 inches. The length of the crest has increased from 2,260 to 3,010 feet by erosion of the embankment. The total area of recession of the Horse-Shoe Falls is 275,400 square feet; of the American Falls, 32,900 square feet.

The report of the Chief Signal Officer of the United States for the year ending June 30, 1890, has lately been issued. The duties of the Bureau, which are becoming more numerous and import-

ant, include the daily weather forecasts, the gauging of rivers in the interest of navigation, the reporting of temperature and rainfall in the crop-raising districts, the display of frost-warnings to agriculturists, and notification of advancing cold waves for the benefit of the public. The average percentage of successful forecasts for short periods was 82.6; for periods of 48 hours, 81.6 per cent., and for periods of 72 hours, 80.5 per cent. The report states that a card-index of stations in the United States at which meteorological observations have ever been taken, is in course of preparation, and, when finished, will form a useful record of climatic observation in this country, and a valuable guide to historical research in its meteorology. Among the subjects of original research now being pursued by members of the staff are a determination of wind velocities and its pressure during violent gusts, by Prof. Marvin; the relation of the dew-point to the subsequent movement of the storm centre, by Capt. Allen; and the average destructiveness of tornadoes, by Prof. H. A. Hazen.

Among recent issues of the special consular reports is one on fruit culture in foreign countries, obtained by the State Department at the request of the California State Board of Horticulture. The fruits named in the circular are oranges, lemons, figs, olives, and grapes. The reports are often minute and exhaustive in details as to varieties, soils, fertilizers, methods of pruning, packing, etc., and many of them being from those countries where the fruits are cultivated with most success, are of value to practical growers and horticulturists. It is to be regretted that the form of the consular reports allows the inclusion of a large mass of material of little value, such as are those reports from districts in which methods of cultivation are crude or in which complete information has not been obtainable.

In awarding the Copley Medal to Prof. Simon Newcomb of Johns Hopkins University, the President of the Royal Society stated that the award was made for a series of important researches, carried on during the last thirty years, which have greatly contributed to the progress of gravitational astronomy. Among Prof. Newcomb's labors in this field, the address continues, may be mentioned his able discussion of the mutual relations of the orbits of the asteroids, his discussion of the orbits of Uranus and Neptune, and of the orbit of the moon. For many years back he has been engaged chiefly in perfecting the tables of the moon, and in his important work, "Researches on the Motion of the Moon," he has discussed observations of eclipses and occultations previous to 1750, with important practical results.

The anniversary address of the President of the Royal Society (*Nature*, Dec. 11th) also states that the committee appointed in 1888 to consider the best mode of administering the fund for the foundation of a memorial to Charles Darwin, has now presented its report. It was decided that the proceeds of the Darwin Fund for the present shall be applied biennially in reward of work of acknowledged distinction in the field in which Darwin labored. It was also decided that the award should consist of a medal in silver or bronze, accompanied by a grant of £100; that it be made either to a British subject or a foreigner, without distinction of sex; and that preference should be given to younger men in the early part of their careers.

A short article in the same issue of *Nature* (Dec. 11th) calls attention to the progress made in the establishment of botanical stations in the West Indies. Twelve years ago, the author states, there were only two botanical establishments in this part of the world, one at Jamaica, the other at Trinidad. Since that time stations have been established at British Guiana, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Barbadoes, and Antigua, while others are in course of organization at Dominica, Nevis, and St. Kitts. The curators of these stations are carefully trained men, mostly from the Kew Gardens, near London, and who have a thorough knowledge of tropical plants. These stations are maintained as centers for the growth and distribution of economic plants, and for the making of experiments determining their value. The Assistant Director of the Kew Gardens, Mr. Morris, has lately left England for a three months' visit to the West India stations with a view to their further organization and extension.

#### ART NOTES.

THE January issue of the *Magazine of Art* has for frontispiece an etching of Sir J. D. Linton's picture, "Waiting." The opening article is a sketch of the Flemish painter, Fernand Khnopff, by Walter Shaw-Sparrow, with several illustrations of his work. He appears to be a versatile genius, and not without originality. "The walls of Stamboul" is a paper written and illustrated by Tristram Ellis and capably reproduced by sun-light and



graver. Following this is a page and a half from the pen of Edwin Bale, R. I., on "The Chemistry of Paints and Painting." A continuation of Claude Phillips's papers on "The Modern Schools of Painting and Sculpture" comes next, and is illustrated with one full-page picture and others of less size. Another article on "Embroidered Book Covers" is given, with rare illustrations. "The English School of Miniature Art" gives examples from the time of Nicholas Hilliard (1547-1619) to the end of the seventeenth century.

Messrs. George F. Kelly & Co.'s monthly publication, *The American Etcher*, gives simply a fine etching, without any letter-press. This is a new departure, and perhaps it may serve the purpose of the public, which certainly has given a very languid and inadequate support to American art journals which attempted to give much reading matter. The etchings in the November and December issues are a water view, "On the North River," by Alfred P. Oakley; and a girl's head, "A Passing Glance," by Frederick W. Freer. Both are fine pieces of work, and twelve such in the course of a year will make a very nice collection. The subscription price is \$5 a year; George F. Kelly & Co., 31 Union Square, New York city.

Since the recent unveiling of a monument in honor of Lessing, Berlin possesses fifty-four public monuments destined to perpetuate the memory of great men or of great historical events. Those which belong to this latter category number eight, while the others number forty-six. A movement is on foot at Frankfurt to erect a statue of the pessimistic philosopher Schopenhauer.

#### CURRENT EXCERPTS.

##### WHAT KOCH'S DISCOVERY LEADS TO.

Dr. Austin Flint, in *The Forum*.

IT can safely be assumed that every statement made by Koch himself is true and accurate. He has gone no farther than is justified by the actual scientific facts. With this assumption, no one can doubt that Koch has made one of the most important discoveries in the history of medicine. If it be true that "phthisis in the beginning can be cured with certainty," it is possible, if not probable, that consumption may be cured in the later stages by supplementing the injections by general hygienic measures of treatment, antiseptic inhalations, and so on, which have already been found useful. The direct value of the discovery of a means of curing a disease which is responsible for one-tenth of the deaths from all causes, including violence, is indeed great; but the imagination almost fails to grasp the importance of the method extended to other diseases produced by micro-organisms. If we know the exact mechanism of the cure for consumption, it is certain that we shall soon be able to successfully apply this knowledge to the study of other diseases.

It is possible, in the light of what has recently been accomplished by Koch, that in the near future many curative lymphs will be discovered, each produced by the special micro-organisms of each disease. It would then be not too much to expect that these agents would promptly arrest the different diseases to which they are applicable. For example: The typhoid lymph, the diphtheritic lymph, the lymph of measles, scarlet fever, etc., would promptly arrest these diseases and save patients from the degenerations and the accidents which are liable to occur when these diseases are allowed to run their course; and that convalescence will be prompt because the diseases have not produced damage which can only be repaired by time. Truly this would be a revolution in medicine, and it now seems to be impending.

##### HOW CLASSIC POETS ARE KILLED.

Edmund Gosse, in *The Forum*.

THE intellectual condition of our times differs from that of all preceding ages in no other point so much as in its attitude toward the writings of the dead. To the class whom Pope addressed, Shakespeare and Milton were phantoms, Chaucer and Spenser not so much as names. The only doubt was whether Alexander Pope was man enough to arrest attention by the intrinsic merits of his poetry. If his verse was admitted to be good, his public were not distracted by a preference for other verse which they had known for a longer time. This remained true until about a generation ago.

The activity of the dead is now paramount, and threatens to paralyze original writing altogether. In this great throng of resuscitated souls, all of whom have forfeited their copyright, how is the modern poet to exist? He has no longer to compete—as "his great forefathers did, from Homer down to Ben,"—with the leading spirits of his own generation, but with the genius of the world. At every turn, the thronging company of the ghosts im-

pedes and disheartens the modern writer; and it is no wonder if the new Orpheus throws down his lyre in despair when the road to his desire is held by such an invincible army of specters.

On the whole, however, it is highly unlikely that the antiquarian passion of our age will last. There are already signs of its wearing out. As to the old poets, one by one they pass into textbooks and are lost. Chaucer is done for, and so is Milton; Goldsmith is annotated, Scott prepared for "local examinations," even Byron, the loose, the ungrammatical, is edited as a school book. We shall see Wordsworth captured, Shelley boiled down for the use of babes, and Keats elaborately annotated, with his blunders in classical mythology exposed. The schoolmaster is the only friend the poet of the future dares to look to, for he alone has the power utterly to destroy the loveliness and mystery which are the charm of the old poets. But even a second-rate verse-writer may hope to live by the side of an Elizabethan poet edited for the Clarendon Press.

##### PRESENT SITUATION OF ALSACE-LORRAINE.

Henry W. Wolff, in *Westminster Review*.

THOUGH twenty years have passed since their annexation, thanks to a rule which, with all its good intentions, all its excellent work in detail, has wholly failed to appeal to their affections, has given them absolutely nothing to be German for, they are at heart aliens still. And aliens in spirit they are likely to remain while that rule is persisted in. Thanks to this, we have Germany still in arms—more so than before—and apprehensive of war. Count Moltke startled Europe when he spoke of Germany having to defend her conquests during fifteen years. That was a sad reverse side to the boast that what it had taken France seven generations to wrest from Germany, Germany had recovered in seven months. But fifteen years proves to have been a ridiculously low estimate. Twenty years have passed, and, instead of disarming, we see Germany arming more, and, instead of relieving Alsace of its garrison, we see her adding to it. In spite of all these armaments, Alsace, disaffected, remains a source of danger. Of course it may be so trodden down as to yield a final submission. Some despondent Alsations, despairing now a little of a better fate, put the time at which this may be expected to happen at fifty years hence—that is, when all the present generation will have passed away, and a new generation will have risen up, thoroughly cowed. At best this is not a cheering outlook. And something so much better was within reach! I do not believe that the Alsations are so irreconcilably French as is made out. They know that they are Germans. And if allowed to be full Germans they would in course of time become so. Even now their complaint is less that they have been made Germans than that they are deprived of citizen rights and treated as a subject caste. They are not insusceptible of kindness. General Manteuffel's rule was not perfection. But General Manteuffel had too big guns to allow himself to be categorically dictated to by ministers at Berlin. He came of all governors nearest to the position of a local prince. He showed some consideration. And the Alsations talk of his rule with something of gratitude and almost affection. Had that spirit been persevered in and allowed to expand, Alsace would, there can be no doubt, present a different picture now from what it does. To sum up, German rule has, with all its little successes, failed in Alsace just to the extent that it has been "firm and resolute"—domineering and despotic—that is, disregarding the rights, the legitimate claims, the natural wishes of the people. It has bowed necks, it has not won hearts.

##### PROTECTION TO SHIPPING NEXT.

The Manufacturer (Philadelphia).

IT is not a little curious that while our government protects American manufacturing and agricultural industry, it permits the shipping industry, so far as trans-marine trade is concerned, to be exposed to destructive competition; and on the other hand, whilst England has free competition with her manufacturing and agricultural industries, she adheres to a system of high protection for her shipping interests. The results, in both cases, show the good effects of protection. British agriculture is in decay and British manufacturers are losing ground, while British ships multiply and cover the ocean. American domestic industry is making rapid strides forward, while American ships are being forced out of ocean commerce. The only progress that is being made by us in this line is in our coasting and lake commerce, and this engages the services of a large and growing fleet, solely because it is fully protected from foreign rivalry. The protectionist sentiment of the nation warmly approves the shipping and subsidy bills now pending in the House of Representatives and demands their passage. The amount of money which will be expended, in the shape of bounties, under these measures, cannot be large in any event, and even if it shall be so large as to surpass the greatest expectations of the enemies of the system, it will be a very small percentage of

the sum which Americans now pay to Englishmen every year for the carriage of our ocean freights. The profits in this business are enormous, and we ought to retain them for our own people. No nation can thus afford to waste profits that rightfully belong to it. No nation can afford to have another nation build its ships.

#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- PATIENCE.** By Anna B. Warner. Pp. 412. \$1.25. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.
- GREEK FOR BEGINNERS.** A Companion Book to the Hadley-Allen Greek Grammar, [etc.] By Edward G. Coy, M. A. Pp. 152. \$1.00. New York: American Book Company.
- ROYAL EDINBURGH.** Her Saints, Kings, Prophets, and Poets. By Mrs. Oliphant. Pp. 520. \$3.00. New York: Macmillan & Co.
- A FLUTTERED DOVECOTE.** By George Manville Fenn. Pp. 284. Paper. \$0.50. New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- AN HISTORICAL ARCHEOLOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FINGAL'S CAVE, in the Island of Staffa.** Re-written and Enlarged from the Original Report made to the Smithsonian Institution, 1887. By J. P. MacLean. Pp. 49. \$0.75. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co.
- ILLUSTRATED HOLIDAY CATALOGUE.** 1890. Pp. 262 and 66. \$0.50. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.
- OPEN SESAME! Poetry and Prose for School Days.** Edited by Blanche Wilder Bellamy and Maud Wilder Goodwin. Vol. II. Pp. 376. \$0.90. Boston: Ginn & Co.
- EMPEROR AND GALILEAN.** A World-Historic Drama. By Henrik Ibsen. Authorized English Edition. Edited by William Archer. Pp. 353. \$1.25. New York: Scribner & Welford.
- THE STORY OF MY HOUSE.** By George H. Ellwanger. Pp. 286. \$— . New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- THROUGH MAGIC GLASSES, AND OTHER LECTURES.** By Arabella B. Buckley. Pp. 234. \$— . New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- STUDIES IN JOCULAR LITERATURE.** By W. Carew Hazlitt. (The Book-Lover's Library, edited by Henry B. Wheatley.) Pp. 230. \$1.25. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son.
- THE SCOTCH-IRISH IN AMERICA.** Proceedings and Addresses of the Second Congress. Pp. 305. Cloth \$1.50. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co.
- THE BLOOD IS THE MAN.** By W. Lawton Lowth. Pp. 101. \$— . San Francisco: The Bancroft Company.
- POLITICAL AMERICANISMS.** A Glossary of Terms and Phrases Current at Different Periods in American Politics. By Charles Ledyard Norton. Pp. 135. \$— . New York and London: Longmans, Green & Co.
- A YOUNG MACEDONIAN in the Army of Alexander the Great.** By Rev. Alfred J. Church. Pp. 325. \$1.25. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.
- BALLADS.** By Robert Louis Stevenson. Pp. 85. \$1.00. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.
- PINE, ROSE, AND FLEUR-DE-LIS.** By S. Frances Harrison, ("Seranus"). Pp. 208. \$1.25. Toronto, Canada: Hart & Co.
- FAUST: BY GOETHE.** From the German by John Anster, LL. D. Illustrated. Pp. 360. \$1.50. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.
- THE RUINED ABBEYS OF YORKSHIRE.** By W. Chambers Lefroy, F. S. A. Illustrated. Pp. 296. \$2.00. London: Seely & Co., Limited; New York: Macmillan & Co.

#### DRIFT.

At a recent meeting of the French Academy of Medicine a paper on the subject of the repeal of the restrictive measures against American salt meats, prepared by Dr. Pietra-Santa, was presented and read. The author made a complete study of everything that has been written or said since 1876 on the subject of trichina and trichinosis, and recalled that the Academy itself had sustained the following opinions: that the fear caused by trichina is exaggerated; that the American meats constitute a valuable resource for the alimentation of the poor classes, of the army, and of the navy, being wholesome, cheap, and highly appreciated; that the French, in their culinary habits, do not use raw salt pork, and only employ it after it has been thoroughly cooked, that is to say, rendered inoffensive. For these reasons, he held the prohibitory measures ought to be abolished.

Seventeen hundred seamen on board American warships in New York Harbor sat down to Christmas dinners furnished by Uncle Sam. The New York Times says that of the 1,700 men aboard the new cruisers, the greater portion of the American element is from New England and the Middle States. There are Boston men, Salem men, New Bedford men, men from Bath, Portland, New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. They hail from all along the American littoral of the Northern States and represent nearly every seaport of this part of the coast.

Mr. Vance makes the fourth Southern Democratic Senator to surrender to the Farmers' Alliance, and Mr. Call of Florida is expected to follow. If the Fifty-Second Congress does not give the country a load of dangerous and foolish legislation, it will be from no lack of the disposition to do so on the part of the leaders of the Democracy.—*Boston Journal*.

There is a large demand for wooden shoes in the Western States. The purchasers are dairymen, gardeners, and farmers. Gardeners' wives and

daughters wear them in the markets. The street car drivers of Indianapolis also wear them, finding that by covering them with a black cloth they can keep their feet warmer in winter by their use than in any other way.

The firm of Mathai, Ingram & Co., of Baltimore, one of the largest manufacturers of tinware in the world, that has heretofore imported 200,000 boxes of tin-plate annually, has announced its intention of making its own tin-plate. This means that about \$1,400,000 a year will be spent at home instead of being sent abroad. A tin-plate factory is also being built in Brooklyn and one in St. Louis, while one in Chicago is already turning out tin.

The New York Star says: "The South is furnishing an object lesson which alleged Republican statesmen would do well to study." The object lesson which thus excites the admiration of the Star is the fact that "the cotton crop that has just been gathered is one of the largest on record," that the movement of this crop brings millions of dollars in gold into the country, and that, to cripple so great an interest by partisan legislation would be a suicidal policy. So it would; but the Star fails to mention that a considerable part of this cotton crop is raised and owned by negroes, and that nearly all the labor of producing it is done by them. The idea that the cotton crop would be endangered by doing justice to the negroes is a little too ridiculous for serious consideration.—*Indianapolis Journal*.

If reports from North Carolina are true, Mr. Vance will get his reelection to the Senate, but he has paid a pretty steep price for it. It is asserted that he has written a letter to the president of the North Carolina Farmers' Alliance in which he says he is ready "with heart and hand" to obey any sort of instructions the people of the State may give him about the corn-crib sub-treasury bill or any other bill.—*Hartford Courant*.

More than half of the constitutional convention of 1787 were men who had not reached the age of 45, while there are only seven men who are not past 45, among the eighty-eight members of the United States Senate to-day, and four of these come from the younger States of the West, where there are fewer old men than in the East, Maine and Vermont having, according to the census returns of age, more than six times as many males past the age of 60 proportionally as Colorado and the Dakotas.

No less than thirty-seven of the eighty-eight Senators, or nearly half of all, are past 60, and nine of them beyond 70, as three others will be within a few months. Mr. Morrill has a colleague from Ohio, who, like him was born in 1810; two who were born in 1816, and three in 1818. Three of these have, like him, sought and obtained reelections after they were past 70. The average age of all the senators falls only about a year short of 60.

In the Supreme Court the change has been equally remarkable. Since Pierce's day but one man has been placed upon this bench who had not passed the age of 45, while of the twelve appointees during the past two decades no less than four were more than 60 when they took their seats. Of the eight judges left after Mr. Miller's death one is 70 years old, one is 74, and one is 77.—*The Century*.

The United States Board on Geographic Names has issued its first bulletin. The board was formed to bring uniformity of nomenclature into the work of government bureaus charged with the production of charts and maps. This first bulletin explains the general principles that have been adopted as to the choice of one out of several varying names, spelling and pronunciation. It also contains a list of 226 names already decided, each followed by the name or names previously in use. For instance, the name Bering Sea is adopted in place of the former Behring, Behrings or Kamchatka. In this instance an appendix is given discussing the orthography of the word. Among the changes noted are these: Chile for Chili, Fiji for Feejee, Haiti for Hayti, Kongo for Congo, and Punjab for Panjob, Punjaub or Pandjab.

It is rather significant to see the warmth with which the Democratic press has set itself to defending Senators Quay and Cameron against Republican criticism. Their cause could not be more devotedly championed by the New York World, for instance, if the recalcitrant Pennsylvanians were members of the Democratic party.—*Boston Journal*.

The other day when a Democratic Senator from New Jersey on the floor of the United States Senate attacked the integrity of elections in this city, and undertook to cast a slur upon the Republican party in Pennsylvania, there was no Senator from this State to reply. This great Commonwealth has become a foot ball for the Democrats in the Senate. They use it at pleasure and without fear of those who ought to be its ready and vigorous champions.—*Philad'a Press*.

The remarkable political changes which have taken place in Germany within a few years are attested by the semi-official announcement that a bill will be introduced into the Imperial Parliament in 1891 to restore to the Catholic church the entire accumulated capital which is formed by the priests' salaries which were confiscated during the anti-Catholic agitation. It is proposed that this accumulated capital shall be handed over to the bishops to be apportioned by them at their pleasure.

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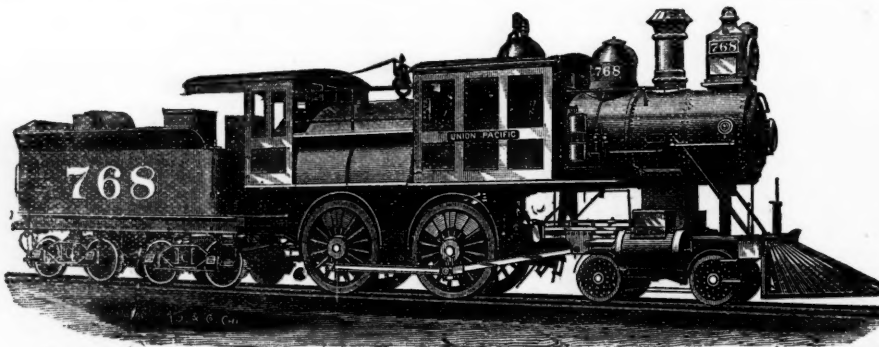
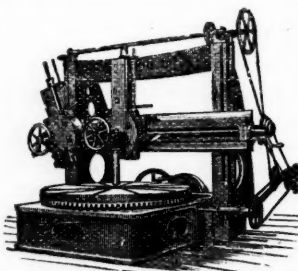
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